

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 14581 210952Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 OMB-01 /051 W
-----064134 211008Z /21

O 210932Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0423
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI PRIORITY
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI PRIORITY
CINCPACREPPH SUBIC BAY RP PRIORITY
JCS WASHDC PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
13THAF CLARK AB RP PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, RP
SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE TV SHOW DISCUSSES THE MILITARY BASES

1. HOUR-LONG PHILIPPINE TV TALK SHOW, "INTERACTION,"
DISCUSSED US MILITARY BASES SUNDAY (NOON) AUGUST 20.
FIVE PANELISTS INCLUDED TWO YOUNG IBP ASSEMBLYMEN WITH KB
CREDENTIALS (RONNIE ZAMORA AND ROGER PEYUAN), TWO BUSINESS-
MEN (SONNY ABELLO AND REY OROSA) AND A KB LEADER FROM
MINDANAO (AMINA BERNARDO). SHOW WAS MODERATED BY REGULAR
HOST, GERRY ESPINA, WHO POSED PRE-PREPARED QUESTIONS AND
QUERIES PHONED IN BY VIEWERS. ("INTERACTION" IS WEEKLY
SHOW SPONSORED BY TOYOTA.)
2. DISCUSSION WAS THOUGHTFUL, UNEMOTIONAL AND COVERED
MOST OF THE FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE BASES. MAIN
POINTS WERE:

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PAGE 02 MANILA 14581 210952Z

- A) THE BASES ARE AN INFRINGEMENT OF PHILIPPINE
- SOVEREIGNTY.
- B) THE BASES ARE A CRUTCH WHICH IMPEDES THE GROWTH
- OF THE PHILIPPINES AS A NATION.
- C) THE BASES BRING PHILIPPINE NON-ALIGNED CREDENTIALS

- INTO DOUBT.
- D) THE THREAT TO THE PHILIPPINES IS INSURGENCY NOT
- EXTERNAL ATTACK, AND THE BASES ARE OF NO HELP IN
- COMBATTING INSURGENCY.
- E) THE BASES ARE A MAGNET FOR ATTACK.
- F) THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE BASES (STATED TWICE
- AS 125 MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY) IS NOT THAT
- SIGNIFICANT. THE LAND BLOCKED BY THE BASES HAS
- SIGNIFICANT VALUE. SUBIC COULD BE A COMMERCIAL
- SHIPYARD; CLARK COULD BE AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.
- (ONE PANELIST SUGGESTED THAT CLARK BE MOVED TO
- MINDANAO WHERE LAND IS LESS VALUABLE. THE PANELIST
- FROM MINDANAO OBJECTED.)
- G) THE US SHOULD PAY FOR ECONOMIC DISLOCATION WHICH
- WILL RESULT FROM DISMANTLING. (ONE PANELIST SAID
- THE BASES PROVIDE DIRECT EMPLOYMENT FOR 31,000
- FILIPINOS, 10,000 OF WHOM ARE DOMESTICS.)
- H) REMOVING THE BASES SHOULD NOT DISCOURAGE US
- INVESTMENT IF THE GOP STATES THAT INVESTMENT
- REMAINS WELCOME.

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PAGE 03 MANILA 14581 210952Z

- I) JURISDICTION IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM.
- J) WHETHER THE BASES STAY OR GO SHOULD DEPEND ON
- PHILIPPINE NOT US INTERESTS. IF THE BASES ARE
- REMOVED, IT SHOULD BE DONE IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY.
- K) NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE BASES ARE NOW
- PROCEEDING IN A SPIRIT OF GOOD FAITH. ONE
- PANELIST SAID THAT THE TERM OF THE MBA WAS BEING
- REDUCED FROM 1999 (REPEATED ERRONEOUSLY AS 1999
- TWICE DURING THE SHOW) AND THE LAND REDUCED AS
- WELL.

3. COMMENT: NOTEWORTHY THAT NO ONE ON SHOW WAS CATEGORICALLY IN FAVOR OF BASES. HOWEVER, ALL SEEMINGLY
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DISMANTLING THE BASES WOULD INVOLVE
SERIOUS PROBLEM OF TIMING AND WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL
EXAMINATION OF HOW PHILIPPINE NATIONAL INTERESTS,
ESPECIALLY EMPLOYMENT, WOULD BE AFFECTED. WE ARE WATCHING
CAREFULLY MEDIA FOLLOW-UP WHICH HAS SO FAR BEEN LIMITED TO
EXCERPTS ON VOICE OF PHILIPPINES MORNING RADIO SHOW
AUGUST 21. MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BASES, TELEVISION BROADCASTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 aug 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Film Number: D780341-0046
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780843/aaaabjfv.tel
Line Count: 116
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bbd75160-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 3
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: MARR, RP
To: STATE CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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